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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IX.—NO. 18. WEEKLY EDITION. MARCH 9, 1872.

HARRISBURG.

The Recusant George O. Evans.

The Governor Powerless to Issue a Requisition.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 29, 1872.

SENATE.

Mr. White offered the following:

WHEREAS, In the New York *Tribune* of February 28th the following appears:

On the 19th of January, Mr. Cooper came into the House of Representatives, toward the close of the morning hour, and endeavored to bring before that body a resolution of inquiry, but before the purport of his resolution appeared, a well known leader of the "Third House" hurriedly went upon the floor, and immediately, by a movement known to the initiated as the "Harrisburg flur y," the session was broken up rather than adjourned. The resolution never was offered again, the matter, probably, having been "fixed," but, as the movement above described is only resorted to in case of emergency, a considerable inquiry was excited as to the objects aimed at. Events subsequently placed a copy of the resolution in your correspondent's hands; but though the allegations were important and specific, no authority was cited, and your correspondent awaited further developments. During the last ten days the two State officers mentioned in the resolution have been interesting themselves to procure the pardon of a certain young broker of Philadelphia, lately condemned for being connected with frauds on the Treasury of that city. Attention being attracted to the case, an investigation ensued, which seems to establish the propriety of making public the suppressed resolution. The portion relevant reads as follows:

WHEREAS, John F. Hartranft, Auditor General, and Robert McMackey, State Treasurer, have been accused illegally using moneys of the Commonwealth, in applying the same in carrying on various operations in stocks, to the extent of several millions of dollars, and to the payment of their private debts; and

WHEREAS, The said State officers are further accused of having used the moneys of the Commonwealth in the purchase of the bonds of the Commonwealth for their own benefit, particularly to the purchase of $162,500 of the five per cent. loan of the Commonwealth, and $31,050 of the six per cent. loan of the Commonwealth; and of having sold the said loans to the Sinking Fund of the Commonwealth at an advantage or profit to the said Mackey of $2,945 at and of an advantage to the said Hartranft of $2,700; and

WHEREAS, The said Mackey is further accused of having received, among other sums, the following payments as interest on the moneys of the Commonwealth used or deposited by him, for or on account of such consideration, viz: On August 25, 1869, $677 50; on February 25, 1870, $677 50; on May 16, 1870, $567 50; and October 5, 1871, $5,000. Therefore, be it

Resolved, (the Senate concurring) That a Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives be appointed to inquire into the accusations aforesaid, and report with such authority for persons and papers.

Mr. Mackey has just been re-elected State Treasurer, and Mr. J. F. Hartranft is the expectant candidate for the Governor's chair. The Legislature reconvenes to-morrow, when the Joint meeting in Philadelphia of three committees, and also to the prevailing sickness, it is hardly expected that there will assemble on the first day. Governor Geary, who has been confined to his room for several days, and inspected to be in Philadelphia to-day, but his physicians decided against his going.

As will be seen, it is alleged by officers of the Commonwealth named therein that said resolution was devised with the intention of using their influence to compromise the claim of the Commonwealth against George O. Evans; and whereas, said officers request an investigation thereof, *viz*:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate to investigate the said charges against said officers and the facts attending the same suggested immediately from, and the publication thereof, with power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. White stated that this preamble and resolution were prepared and handed to him by request of one of the parties alluded to in the publication.

Mr. Mace indorsed what Mr. Graham had said, but animadverted upon the State officials, who should have afforded the Committee more facilities for ascertaining who got all this money.

Mr. Billingsfelt's amendment referring this matter to the Evans committee was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Albright, Allen, Billingfelt, Brodhead, Buckalew, Collins, Crawford, Davis, Berks; Dechert, Dill, Findley, Fitch, McSherry, Petrikin, Strang, Wallace, Warfel and Weaver—18.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Brooke, Davis, Philadelphia; Delamater, Graham, Humphreys, Mantor, Mathues, Mott, Rutan and Wolfe—11.

The resolution as amended was passed.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Cooper Tells About Those Resolutions.

Mr. Cooper, Republican, made a personal explanation in relation to an article appeared in the New York *Tribune*, of the 28th, saying that he had endeavored to introduce resolutions into the Legislature charging Auditor General Hartranft and State Treasurer Mackey with having unlawfully speculated with the funds of the State. On the 19th of January he had been sent for at the Lochiel Hotel, and introduced by one of his constituents to George O. Evans, to his attorney and to Dr. Payne. These parties had in their hands a bill to present certain resolutions to the House, and had promised if he complied to make him popular. He had examined their papers, and at once made up his mind that the object was to obtain an offset to the investigation now pending against Evans, or else to compel the State Treasurer and Auditor General to settle the State claim against Evans. He refused to present the resolutions, and communicated the facts to Auditor General Hartranft, who advised with the whole thing was, in his opinion, an effort to "pinch" the Commonwealth; that the State had offered to settle on the basis of the Philadelphia compromise, viz: $100,000, when that over $50,000 had been offered by the Evans party, but that the State Treasurer and himself could not consent to this, and would prefer to sue than the amount they thought was designated by the Court.

Election of Auditor and Surveyor Generals.

In the afternoon the special order was the House bill relative to the election of Auditor and Surveyor Generals. The first section provides that in the case of the death of any person elected Auditor or Surveyor General between the day of election and the first Tuesday of May, a vacancy shall exist to be filled by appointment by the Governor until the first Monday of December.

Mr. Sanner moved to amend by providing that the vacancy shall be filled by the incumbent at the time being, until his successor shall be elected and qualified, instead of allowing the Governor to appoint. Agreed to.

The second section provides that the Auditor General or Surveyor General for the term shall be chosen at the next annual election after the death of the person whose place has been temporarily filled.

The third section authorizes returns of elections to be opened on the first Tuesday after such election. This bill was passed as amended.

Local Option.

The general Local Option bill was again taken up. Mr. McJunkin moved to amend by requiring a triennial vote to be taken by the cities, townships and boroughs. Agreed to.

One of the sections of the bill provided that it should not interfere with any existing local prohibitory laws on the liquor question. Mr. Latta moved to strike out the provision. Lost after debate. The bill then passed by the following yeas and nays. The Allegheny members voted as follows: Ayes—White, Miller, Sample. Ballentine and Gilfillan. Noes—Taylor and Edwards.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 1, 1872.

SENATE.

Petitions.

Mr. Anderson presented a petition for a prohibitory liquor law in certain townships of Allegheny county; also for a bill protecting bituminous coal miners.

Mr. Rutan, one from Beaver county for a prohibitory liquor law; also, one from Beaver county for the extension of the Mercer county liquor law to that county.

Mr. Humphreys, from two hundred and fifty citizens of West Elizabeth township, for the protection of bituminous coal miners.

Mr. Graham, a remonstrance from Tarentum against the liquor license bill now before the House of Allegheny county, also one of similar import from the ladies of Tarentum.

Election of the State Treasurer by the People.

Mr. Billingfelt reported from the Constitutional Reform Committee, as committed, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution authorizing the election of State Treasurer by the people. He offered the same up, and it passed finally by a unanimous vote, and goes to the House for concurrence. Adjourned till Monday evening.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The bill incorporating Beaver County Oil Pipe Company passed.

Free Pipe Bill.

Mr. McJunken reported, as originating in committee a free oil pipe bill, covering Venango, Warren, Erie, Crawford, Forest, Armstrong, Butler and Cameron counties.

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Hewitt, McJunkin, Mitchell, of Tioga, Sanner, Albright, Josephs and Daily, the committee to investigate all the recent election frauds in Philadelphia.

The Pittsburgh health bill was reported affirmatively without amendments.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Edwards—Providing for the appointment of an inspector and measurer of timber for Allegheny county. This bill provides that the judges of the Court of Common Pleas shall appoint such inspector for a term of two years, except the first appointment, which shall be until January 1st, 1874. His office shall be convenient to the Herr's Island timber market. Also, local option liquor law for Wilkins township. This bill repeals the prohibitory law in force now in that township. Also, supplement for the East Liberty and Penn Township Plank Road Company. This bill declares this road a township road from the Sandy Creek road to the eastern terminus; also, incorporating the East End Life Insurance Improvement and Trust Company, corporators John C. Beecher, J. O. Marchand, Alex. Bates, Jas. Connor and others.

By Mr. Sample, increasing the compensation of road viewers in Allegheny county; also, repealing the act of 1872 to prevent cattle, horses, sheep and swine running at large in Allegheny county; also, regulating interest on borrowed money, which authorizes any rate of per cent. under written contract.

By Mr. Ballentine, supplement to the act for improvement of West End avenue. This bill provides that the assessors of damages shall not be confined to the limit of one rule, and shall include all lands benefited by the construction of the avenue, and may issue bonds during the execution of the work not exceeding seventy-five per cent. of the whole cost; also, providing for the collection of tax in Temperanceville; also, relative to costs in criminal process; this bill gives juries power to direct by whom the costs shall be paid: as in misdemeanors, except in cases of murder, burglary, rape, &c.; also, authorizing additional tax in West Pittsburgh; also, incorporating the Hamilton Hall and Cottage Company of Pittsburgh.

By Mr. Taylor, incorporating the Crescent Mining and Transportation Company; also, supplement relative to the appointment of a special detective by the District Attorney of Allegheny county; this bill increases the compensation of the detective; also, incorporating the West Virginia Lumber and Mineral Co. of Pittsburgh; also, supplement increasing the powers of the Allegheny Agricultural Society; also, increasing the salary of the chief clerk in the Controller's office of Allegheny county to twelve hundred dollars, and his assistants to eight hundred. This bill was sent by the County Controller; also, supplement to the act for the improvement of Pennsylvania avenue, which extends the powers of said act to Fifth avenue.

By Mr. Millar, allowing McKeesport borough to borrow money to build a market house.

By Mr. White, extending East avenue to West End avenue; also, local option law for West Deer, East Deer, Pine and other townships; also, incorporating the Limestone Improvement Company; also, supplement to the act of 1870 relating to judicial sales and liens of mortgages.

Mr. Gilfillan presented a petition of five hundred women of Allegheny county, asking representation in the next State Constitutional Convention.

The Committee in the Greene-Shortt contested election case reported in favor of Shortt, Republican.

Adjourned till Monday evening.

The Evans Investigating Committee go to Washington to-night.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 4, 1872.

A Requisition Asked For—The Governor Has No Power.

The Geo. O. Evans Investigation Committee have asked Gov. Geary for a requisition for the arrest of Evans in New York, and the following is the reply:

"*Hon. F. Carroll Brewster, Attorney General of Pennsylvania:*

"DEAR SIR: I have just received a communication from Hon. James L. Graham, Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Legislature to investigate the settlement of the war claims, &c., requesting me to issue a requisition upon the Governor of New York for the rendition of George O. Evans, a fugitive from justice, charged to be in that State. I have a decided conviction that under the Constitution and laws of the United States and this State no authority exists for the issue of a requisition in such a case, but unwilling to refuse or to act without being fully advised of my duty in the premises, I herewith refer the matter to you for your immediate examination and report. Respectfully yours, JOHN W. GEARY."

"ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
HARRISBURG, March 1, 1872. }

"*His Excellency John W. Geary, Governor of Pennsylvania:* SIR.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 29th ult., inclosing, first, a letter to you from Hon. James L. Graham, Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Legislature to investigate the State war claims; second, a copy of an attachment issued by Hon. Asa R. Ruan, Speaker of the Senate, commanding the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate to arrest Geo. O. Evans for contempt in refusing to appear before the Joint Committee in answer to a subpœna duly served upon him by said Graham, chairman of the Committee, in his letter to you, informs you that George O. Evans has failed to obey the command of the said subpœna, and that he left the Commonwealth for New York, as the Committee believe, with the intention of avoiding their presence before them to testify. Mr. Graham adds that an attachment was granted, and he concludes with the request that you will make, as Governor of the Commonwealth, a requisition upon His Excellency the Governor of New York, for the surrender of said George O. Evans to the jurisdiction of the Legislature of this Commonwealth. The question thus submitted for my opinion is, whether a requisition can be issued against a witness who refuses to obey the contempt of legislative process. Upon perusal of the papers submitted, I have arrived at the conclusion that this question must be answered in the negative. The respect at all times due to the Legislature, and an earnest desire that every facility should be afforded for the investigation in question, have led me to consider all attitudes upon this subject, I have done so, and find no case which supports the application. Treason is a crime committed against it may be thus briefly stated: No requisition can be issued by you for the surrender of a witness from within the limits of the United States. Its language is very plain: "A person charged in any State with treason, felony or other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another State, shall on demand of the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up to the State having jurisdiction of the crime." *Art. fourth, section 2d.*

"As early as 1791 a demand was made under this section, by the Governor of Virginia. No act of Congress having then been passed to regulate the proceedings, the two Governors called the attention of the President to this subject, and he immediately submitted it to the consideration of Congress. This led to the act of February 12th, 1793 (*Br. Digest U. S.*, 293), which declares that whenever the executive authority of any State or Territory demands any person as a fugitive, and shall moreover produce the copy of an indictment found or an affidavit made before a magistrate charging treason, felony or other crime, certified as authentic by the Governor or Chief Magistrate of the State from which he fled, the duty of the Executive of the State to which such person shall have fled, to cause him to be arrested.

"From these citations it would appear that in order to justify a requisition, the accused must first have committed treason, felony, or other crime; second, he must have fled from justice; and in addition to these requirements there must be, third, an indictment found or an affidavit made before a magistrate charging treason, felony or other crime. The papers submitted show no indictment or affidavit. The fourth article of the amendment to the Constitution of the United States directs that no warrant shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation. The eighth section of article ninth of our State constitution adopts and enlarges the prohibition. The refusal to obey a subpœna is a gross breach of duty on the part of a citizen. It undoubtedly subjects him to an attachment and to action by the party aggrieved, but I find no principle of the common law nor statute of Pennsylvania which declares that the person refusing to obey a subpœna to testify may be indicted. The act of March 31, 1860 (*Br. Digest*, 1,019), punishes parties who dissuade witnesses from attending and testifying, but it does not the rescuant witness liable to attachment. The act of April 6, 1790 (*Br. Digest*, 1,020), makes it to be an indictable offense for certain witnesses to refuse to appear; but by express words this statute is confined to cases of perjury, perjury or forgery before any Criminal court. Persons refusing obedience to a subpœna issued by the Legislature or Congress may be punished (*statutes* 1857, *Br. digest, U. S.* 390), and this circumstance may possibly explain the misconception which has led to the presentation of this application. It is very desirable that defaulting witnesses should be severely punished, and that the omission referred to in our legislation be speedily supplied; but as the law now stands, the Governor of New York would probably disregard a requisition issued upon these papers. If he granted the process of extradition, it would be nullified by *habeas corpus*. Such a proceeding would be a public reproach, and all parties concerned in the illegal arrest would be liable in a civil action for damages. For the reasons, I respectfully recommend, that you decline to grant this requisition.

"Very respectfully yours,
"F. CARROLL BREWSTER,
"Attorney General."

Hon. James L. Graham, Chairman of the Joint Committee to Investigate the Settlement of War Claims.

"SIR,—Your communication of the first inst., requesting a requisition upon the Governor of New York for the rendition of George O. Evans for contempt in refusing to obey the command of a subpœna to appear before your Joint Committee, with accompanying papers, has been carefully considered. Finding neither power nor precedent for a compliance with your request in the premises furnished, I submitted the case to the Attorney General in a communication, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, marked "A." On the 2d instant I received his reply, which is herewith submitted, marked "B," from which it appears that no lawful authority exists for the issue of a requisition under the circumstances presented. I heartily concur with Attorney General Brewster in his views, and see no necessity for the enactment of a law to cover such cases. Most respectively, your obedient servant,
"JOHN W. GEARY."

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

Mr. Graham, changing the venue in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Adolphus and Jacob Burkhart, and Adolphus Berkhart from the District Court of Cambria to Allegheny county.

Mr. Davis, of Philadelphia, authorizing common carriers, factors and others to sell goods, etc., unclaimed, and upon which they have claims.

Mr. Humphreys, incorporating the Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Temperanceville Passenger Railway.

Mr. Billingfelt introduced a resolution inquiring in reference to the Rothermel painting, which was referred to the committee on that subject, which is to meet this week.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Government sent in a veto of the supplement to Allegheny County Prison, the eighth and ninth articles being unconstitutional, because they give pardoning power.

Bills Introduced.

Mr. Ballentine, authorizing Temperanceville and West Pittsburgh boroughs to use portions of the Temperanceville plank road.

Mr. Millar, authorizing the National Screw Company to hold real estate; also, establishing a ferry over the Monongahela near the mouth of Crooked Run.

POLITICAL.

Gov. Palmer Will Not Listen to the Counterfeit Republicans

ST. LOUIS, March 4.—A special from Springfield, Illinois, to the *Democrat*, says: The *State Journal*, in a leading editorial this morning, asserts that Governor Palmer has refused to receive the names made to him by the Gratz Brown Republicans and Possum Democrats to accept the nomination of President from the Cincinnati Convention, and also says that Governor Palmer is now and always has been a warm personal friend of President Grant and a supporter of his administration, and that he intends to continue so.

Town Elections in Maine.

PORTLAND, ME., March 4.—At the charter election to-day, Benjamin Kingsburry, jr., was re-elected Mayor, the vote standing Kingsburry, Republican, 2,032; Cleaves, Democrat, 1,648; Morgan, citizens' ticket, 312.

LEWISTON, ME., March 4.—Lewiston to-day elected David Cowan, Republican, Mayor, by 528 majority over J. P. Gill, Democrat. Last year Garcelon, Democrat, had 38 majority.

The Chinese shoemakers at North Adams, Mass., of all the inhabitants of that town, were alone patriotic enough to celebrate the Birthday of Washington.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4, 1872.

The Letter from the Emperor of Japan.

The following is an official copy of the translation of the letter of credence from the Emperor of Sapan, presented by the Japanese Embassy to the President of the United States to-day:

Mutsuukito, Emperor of Japan, etc., to the President of the States of America; our good brother and faithful friend, greeting:

MR. PRESIDENT: Whereas, since our accession by the blessing of heaven to the sacred throne on which our ancestors reigned from time immemorial, we have not dispatched any embassy to the Courts and governments of friendly countries, we have thought fit to select our trusty and honored Minister, Siouii Tomomi Iwakura, the Junior Prime Minister, as Ambassador Extraordinary, and have associated with him Jassanmi Takeuchi Kido, member of the Privi Council; Jussammi Topsimits Okubo, Minister of Finance; Sushie Hirobumie Ito, acting Minister of Public Works, and Jushie Massouha Yamaguchi, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Associate Ambassadors Extraordinary, and invested them with full power to proceed to the good Government of the United States, as well as to other governments, in order to declare our cordial friendship, and to place the peaceful relations between our respective nations on a firmer and broader basis. The period for revising the treaties now existing between ourselves and the United States is less than one year distant. We expect and intend to reform and improve the same, so as to stand upon a similar footing with the most enlightened nations, and to attain the full development of public right and interest. The civilization and institutions of Japan are so different from those of other countries that we cannot expect to reach the desired end at once. It is our purpose to select from the various institutions prevailing among enlightened nations such as are best suited to our present condition, and to adopt them in gradual reforms, and the improvements of our policy and customs, so as to be upon an equality with them. With this object we desire fully to disclose to the United States Government the condition of affairs in our Empire, and to consult upon the means of giving greater efficiency to our institutions at present and in the future; and as soon as the said Embassy returns home, we will consider about the revision of the treaties and their stipulations, in what we have expected and intended. The Ministers who compose this Embassy have our confidence and esteem. We request you to favor them with full credence and due regard, and we earnestly pray for your continued health and happiness, and for the peace and prosperity of your great republic.

"In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hand and the great seal of our empire, at our palace in the city of Tokio, this fourth of the seventh year of Meiji, and the fourth of Meiji. Your affectionate brother and friend,
[Signed] "MOUTSOUKITO.
"Countersigned JUCHIH SANEYOU SANJO,
"Prime Minister."

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1872.

RECEPTION OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY—SPEECH OF PRINCE IWAKURA AND REPLY OF GENERAL GRANT.

The Japanese Embassy were presented to the President to-day, and a complimentary speech made by the Prince Ambassador introducing the Embassy, followed by an address from Iwakura and the response by President Grant. The members of the Cabinet were present, together with all the army and naval dignitaries in full uniform, together with Vice President Colfax and Speaker Blaine, etc. The following is the address of the ambassadors to the President, delivered by Iwakura:

"His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, our august sovereign, has sought since the achievement of our national reconstruction to attain a more perfect organization in the administrative system of his Empire, and has taken a very great interest in the results attained by western nations. Having a sincere desire to establish permanent friendship and mutual good relations on a still closer footing, he has commissioned us, his Ambassadors Extraordinary, to all powers having treaties with Japan. Upon the soil of your country we first present our credentials, delivering to you personally the letter of our august sovereign at this public official audience. The principles and objects with which we are charged by our Government are somewhat set forth in this letter. We are authorized further to enter into an agreement on all international questions, directing our efforts to promote and develope wide commercial relations, and draw in closer bonds the strong friendship already existing between our respective people. Thus we hope to gain a fresh impulse in progress, gaining good from every form of civilization. Japan is desirous to do while in the exercise of strict integrity to our own national interests, so trustingly confided by a generous sovereign, and shall earnestly endeavor to meet your wishes in every question in facilitating the task assigned us by our Government. We gladly avail ourselves of this happy meeting to convey personally to your Excellency the sincere wish for your continued prosperity and happiness and as national representatives we extend the same wish to all the people of the United States."

The President replied respectfully:

GENTLEMEN: I am gratified that this country and that my administration will be distinguished in history as the first which has received an embassy from Japan, and which the United States were first to establish diplomatic and commercial intercourse. The objects which you say have given to you much anxiety and thought, are of importance and wisdom of your sovereign, and reflect credit on you in having been chosen as an embassy to a country which has taken such rapid improvements as Japan has within the time must be regarded as gone never to return, when any nation can keep apart from all others and expect to enjoy prosperity and happiness, which is developed by the spirit of the mutual adoption of improvements, not only in the service of the Government, but in those other sciences and arts which contribute to the dignity of mankind and to national wealth and power. Though Japan is one of the most ancient of organized communities and the United States rank among the youngest, we declare ourselves we have made some improvement on the political institutions of the nations from whom we are descended. Our experience leads us to believe that the wealth, power and happiness of a people are advanced by their encouragement of trade and commercial intercourse with other powers by the elevation and dignity of labor; by the practical adaptation of science to manufactures and arts; by increased facilities of frequent and rapid communication between different parts of the country; by the encouragement of emigration, which brings with it valuable habits and diverse geniuses of the industry of other lands; by a free press; by a freedom of thought and conscience, and liberal toleration in matters of religion, not only to citizens but to all foreigners resident among us. It will be a pleasure to us to enter on that consultation on international questions which is your purpose and authorized to engage. The improvement of commercial relations between our respective countries is important and desirable, and cannot fail to stand with the most favor with us. I will heartily co-operate in so desirable an object. Your kind wishes for me personally, gentlemen, are cordially accepted. The present unhappy war may be agreeable to you, and may contribute to more intimate acquaintance and intercourse between our respective people.

The utmost interest was manifested by the large company present in these exercises. At the conclusion of the ceremonies a very formal introduction was given to all the officials present, those representing the several departments being presented in groups to the strangers. At the conclusion of the courtesies the members of the Embassy were escorted into the blue parlor to be introduced to the ladies of the Executive mansion and of the cabinet circle, after which the guests with others who had been invited to be present. President Grant, with Iwankura on his arm, led the way, followed by the officers of the Embassy and other members of the Embassy. Some time was passed in the blue parlor in the exchange of social courtesies, an interpreter being present to assist whether need, or becoming, or not.

The Japanese Ambassadors held a reception this afternoon at their hotel. The parlors were handsomely decorated with United States and Japanese flags. Many distinguished persons were present. The Embassy have accepted the invitation of Speaker Blane to pay a visit to the House of Representatives, and have named Wednesday for that purpose.

Hon. James Brooks, of New York, gave a reception to the Japanese embassadors this evening. It was a grand affair. The Japanese entered socially into conversation either in our own language or through an interpreter, and expressed themselves delighted with the reception everywhere extended them. At the banquet speeches were made by Iwakura, Mr. Brooks, General Banks, Kido, Imperial Councellor, Governor Ito, Minister De Long, Mr. Mari, Congressmen Wood, Sargent, Kelley, Dawes and Kerr, and Ben Perley Poore. The entertainment continued until a late hour, and was in the highest degree gratifying to all present.

XLII CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4, 1872.

SENATE.

The legislative appropriation bill was taken up. Mr. TRUMBULL moved to postpone it, to take up the Chicago relief bill. Lost. After some time spent in considering the appropriation bill, the Senate went into executive session, continuing therein until adjournment.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. HIBBARD introduced a bill to test a plan of storm and flood signals.

Mr. NEGLEY, from the committee on Commerce, reported a bill to amend the steamboat law, which was ordered printed and recommitted.

The House then, in committee of the whole, considered the deficiency appropriation bill. Without concluding its consideration, the committee rose and the House adjourned.

An Invitation from Florida.

A letter dated Jacksonville, Florida, February 27, contains the following seductive invitation: "The weather is fine. The violets and jessamins are all out, and the air is heavy with their perfume. Come!" It tries one's strength to resist that

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Attempt to Assassinate Queen Victoria.

Attempt to Assassinate Queen Victoria.

LONDON, February 29, Evening.—A miscreant this afternoon fired a pistol at Queen Victoria, while she was driving on Constitutional Hill, happily without effect. The would-be assassin was promptly arrested.

Great Excitement in London Over the Attempt on the Queen's Life—The Would-be Murderer Evidently Crazy.

LONDON, February 29, Midnight.—The excitement to-night over the report of an attempt on the life of the Queen is intense. Extras of the evening papers appeared in rapid succession as the confirmatory details became known. Crowds are still collected in the streets, discussing the news and awaiting further particulars. An official statement of the facts was promptly made in Parliament this evening, which, when it became known outside, greatly relieved the public anxiety.

While the House of Lords was in committee discussing the eclesiastical bill, Lord Granville entered and said he hoped their Lordships would excuse the sudden interruption of the proceedings, but he had an announcement to make which it was desirable should be made without delay. He then proceeded to state that at half-past five this evening the Queen, returning from a drive, had reached Buckingham Palace. As her carriage stopped at the gate, a young man ran to the side and presented a pistol within a foot of the Queen's head. The Queen bent her head down to avoid the shot, but the pistol did not explode. The fellow in one hand held papers granting a release to Fenian prisoners, which he shouted to the Queen to sign, threatening her at the same time with the pistol. He was quickly seized by the attendants, and prevented from doing further harm. It was then found that the pistol was unloaded, and that it was of such primitive construction that if it had been loaded it probably could not have been fired. Majesty was perfectly calm, and showed the courage which she has often before exhibited. She had directed that a statement of the circumstances be immediately issued to the House of Commons, in order to prevent exaggerated rumors. Lord Granville said he would not dwell on details, nor point to the contrast between the disgraceful act and Tuesday's extraordinary exhibition of the nation's loyalty. The Duke of Buckingham briefly expressed the thankfulness of the House at the escape of Her Majesty from danger. Mr. Gladstone made a statement in the House of Commons similar to that of Lord Granville. The would-be assassin was taken to the nearest police station. He gives his name as O'Connor, and is about nineteen or twenty years of age. The excitement in the station was wild, and his language incoherent. He boasted that he tried to reach the Queen on Tuesday during the procession.

PARIS, February 29, Evening.—The assembly has resolved to adjourn on the 20th of March.

Count de Chambord has left Dordrecht for Breda.

BERLIN, February 29.—The extension of the fortifications of Metz and Strasbourg has been decreed.

Another Account of the London Outrage.

Special to the World.

LONDON, February 29.—As the Queen was re-entering the court yard at Buckingham Palace after a drive through the park to-day, Alfred O'Connor, a Fenian eighteen years of age, sprang under the rear wheel of the last carriage and struck the Queen on the breast with an unloaded pistol, at the same time presenting a petition of amnesty for Fenians, and claiming "Sign or die." Prince Arthur, who was seated in the carriage with the Queen, knocked the man down. O'Connor was seized and conveyed to prison. When first questioned, he said his design was to frighten the Queen into doing justice to Ireland.

King William's Decision of the San Juan Boundary.

LONDON, March 4.—A *Times* special dispatch from Berlin says that it is thought in that city that the decision of Emperor William, arbitrator in the San Juan boundary dispute between the English and American Governments, will be announced to-day.

The French Cabinet Crisis.

PARIS, March 4.—The dissatisfaction in the Cabinet over the conduct of Pouyer Quertier, Minister of Finance, testifying at Rouen in favor of Lamotte, ex-Prefect of the Department of Eure, who is charged with embezzling subscriptions for the relief of the French sufferers continues. Should the resignation of the Minister of Finance become necessary, it is believed Casimar Perier, Minister of the Interior, will be appointed to the position.

PARIS, March 4.—Minister Pouyer Quertier has not resigned, and the Cabinet is still deliberating. In the Assembly to-day there was a stormy debate on the bill imposing penalties on members of the International Society. Deputy Malartre, amid much excitement, in the sense of the society, which, he said, in placing the principle of solidarity above country only imitates religious associations in all parts of the world.

Sauvier de la Motte, Ex-Prefect of the Department of Eure, whose trial at Rouen, on a charge of embezzling subscriptions for the relief of France, has excited so much attention, was to-day acquitted and honorably discharged.

Thiers to-day, in reply to a deputation of Englishmen living at Paris, said the present short system was only temporary, and promised encouragement for the tunnel project.

The Chamber of Deputies president of Rhone asks for military reinforcements for the maintenance of order, which he says is needed by the rapid increase of workmen's clubs and illegal societies.

LONDON, March 4.—A *Times* dispatch from Paris says: General L'Admiranlt has reconsidered his determination to retire from the Governorship of Paris, which position he threatened to resign because the *Rappel* was allowed to reappear.

The End of the Tichborne Case.

LONDON, March 4.—The jury in the Tichborne case have informed the Court that they have heard sufficient evidence whereon to base a verdict. Adjournment has been taken until Wednesday, in order to allow Sergeant Ballantine, counsel for the claimant, to consider as to his future course.

Copies of the American Case to be Distributed in Parliament.

LONDON, March 4.—Copies of the American case in full, as submitted to the Geneva Board of Arbitration, will be distributed in both Houses of Parliament Saturday.

The operatives in the flax mills of Leeds have struck against a reduction of their times of labor to nine hours per day. They are conducting themselves in an orderly manner, and no trouble is apprehended. The number of persons on strike is estimated between 10,000 and 11,000.

Dispatches from Calcutta announce that the expedition against Lushais is practically ended, and peace will soon be proclaimed.

It is reported that a treaty has been concluded between Brazil and Paraguay, by the terms of which the former continues to exercise a protectorate over Paraguay for ten years, and the latter undertakes to pay the expenses of the protectorate and codes certain territory to Brazil.

Expulsion of the Turks from Europe Predicted.

LONDON, March 4.—The *Satanic World* of Prague says the Prince of Servia is about to marry a Russian Princess, and predicts from this alliance a no less important result than the driving of the Turks from Europe.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

LONDON, February 29.—An arrival from Monrovia reports the overthrow of the President of the Republic, who was imprisoned for malpractice, had escaped from custody.

PARIS, February 29.—The *Rappel* newspaper, the publication of which was suspended some time ago, has again appeared.

The Count de Chambord has made arrangements for a temporary residence at the Hague. It is reported that Thiers has again offered the Pope the hospitality of France, and that Austria has tendered his Holiness Salesbury Castle for a residence.

ROME, February 29.—Gen. Magnamie, Minister of War, has requested the Chamber of Deputies to vote an appropriation of 2,000,000 lires to enable him to provide for the proper training of the army, and for the erection of buildings for the accommodation of troops.

Gen. Durando has refused a denial of the report that he is connected with the International Society.

LODOS, March 4.—A London *Times* dispatch to Berlin says that Von Arnim, German Embassador to France, has been ordered home to report his opinion regarding the stability of the French government.

Marine News.

LONDON, March 4.—The steamers Cambria, Idaho and Alexander have arrived out.

The Markets.

LONDON, March 4—5 P. M.—Consols—Money 92⅝ @93; account 92. American Bonds—5-20s, '65, 93; 5-20s, '67, 92⅝; 10-40s, 88⅜. Tallow 47s. Sugar, 4pct, 34s@35s; afloat 29s. Turpentine 56s@57s.

FRANKFORT, March 4—5-20s, 92, 95⅞.

PARIS, March 4.—Bourse dull.

LIVERPOOL, March 4.—Cotton steady; middling upland 11d@11⅝d; sales 15,000 bales; speculation and export 1,000 bales. Red winter wheat under 9s 12d. Flour 25s@27s. Corn 28s. Cheese 70s. Cumberland middles 31s 6d; short rib middles 52s. Turpentine 56s@57s.

THE PUBLIC DEBT

Statement for the Month of February.

$12,391,451 of the Burden Removed

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The following is a recapitulation of the public debt statement:

Debt bearing interest in coin—principal	$1,850,150,200
Interest	32,800,227
Debt bearing interest in lawful money—principal	33,818,000
Interest	248,418
Debt on which interest has ceased since maturity—principal	1,679,142
Interest	270,208
Debt bearing no interest—principal	431,602,401
Unclaimed interest	14,644
Total debt—principal	$2,317,249,743
Interest	33,432,499
Total	$2,350,682,243
Cash in Treasury—coin	110,405,319
Currency	14,463,426
Total	$124,868,745
Debt less cash in the Treasury March 1st, 1872	$2,225,813,497
February 1st, 1872	2,238,204,949
Decrease of debt during the past month	12,391,451
Decrease of debt since March 1st, 1871	94,805,348
Decrease of debt from March 1st, 1869, to March 1st, 1872	260,040,762
Bonds issued to Pacific Railroad Companies, interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding	64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid	646,235
Interest paid by the United States	14,631,870
Interest repaid by transportation of mails, &c	3,477,125
Balance of interest paid by the United States	11,143,745

PHILADELPHIA.

Dr. Jayne's Fine Building on Chestnut Street Burned—$1,000,000 Worth of Goods Lost.

PHILADELPHIA, March 4.—Dr. Jayne's granite building on Chestnut street, below Third, was discovered to be on fire in the rear fronting on Carter street, shortly after nine o'clock, and the flames soon spread from the third to the eighth story. The immense height of the building rendered the steam fire engines almost useless in reaching the upper stories, and the building was probably the tallest in Midnight.—The fire in Jayne's building is apparently checked at the sixth story. The fire originated in the basement, and a large portion of the immense building saved. The stock of teas and coffee in Shannon's store, adjoining the Jayne building, was ruined by water.

LATER.—The upper portion of the center street front fell with a tremendous crash shortly after midnight, but the side walls still remain firm as ever, and if they continue so the Bank of Commerce and various brokers offices on each side probably will escape, with the exception of damage from water.

A. M., March 5.—The fire, which was thought to have been checked, has reached the eighth story. Women in their night dresses in fashionable social centers of thought and intellectual culture as well as grace and refinement; the difficulty lies in themselves, not in the want of the material. Nothing but a change in the fashion can prevent the recurrence of the fire, but soon it extended to the cupola, which fell, and had not been for the copper roof, would have been entirely consumed. The fire is now practically incapable of it, but by her rare perception, and unselfishness, absolute freedom from jealousy. Few women with a special gift of their own, and the unlimited means at command her others of so many and such varied faculties and attainments, but she did it because she rejoiced in them all, even more than she did in her power.

Certainly the quality that thoroughly understands and

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1872.

THE silence of General BUTLER is becoming conspicuous, and many persons are beginning to make inquiries concerning him. Not since he entered public life has he so long kept silent and withdrawn from public observation. It is not known that he is broken in health or otherwise disabled physically; so that there must exist some other reason. What is it? Are we in due time to see the General breaking out in a new spot? Some are disposed so to suspect.

THE *Tribune* is of the opinion that, whereas in the early stages of the New Hampshire canvass the chances were with the Democrats, they have pretty effectually turned the tables against themselves by attaching Protection and circulating free trade pamphlets. This free trade advocacy is no accident, but a part of the anti-GRANT tactics, not in New Hampshire alone, but the country through. It is here we have foreshadowed the plan of the Presidential campaign; and the New Hampshire experience will exert no small influence in settling the lines on which the people will range themselves. If the opposition shall be satisfied with this line of action and the result, certainly the Republican party of the country will have no reason to complain.

AMONG the crowd of candidates who are said to yearn for the governorship of Tennessee, ANDREW JOHNSON is reported to be pushing himself prominently as an independent bidder for the high prize. We submit that his ambition should take a higher flight than this. Let him make a bold strike for the nomination of all the disaffected in the ensuing Presidential campaign. Considering the eminence which he has already achieved as a "Mosaic" statesman, what should be more in accordance with the natural fitness of things than that he should be the standard bearer of a party whose platform will probably be a mosaic of the most curious order? In the present uncomfortable stress of the "liberals" we throw out this hint for their consideration.

IT is not probable that anything will come of the efforts of the New England delegation now before the Committee on Ways and Means to effect a repeal of the duties on raw wool. It is admitted that the delegation does not represent the views of the wool interest in general, and it would certainly seem difficult to discover why the wool grower is not as much entitled to the benefits of protection as the wool manufacturer. At the recent Syracuse Convention of Eastern manufacturers of woollen goods—a very influential and largely attended meeting—action was taken of a totally different character, the retention of the duty on raw wool as well as on woollen goods being asked for at the hands of Congress. In view of these facts it is extremely doubtful whether the delegation will accomplish anything.

"BUT this is your ox instead of mine, and therefore to be gored," responds wine-bibbing JOHN BELL to the son of his loins named Australia, when the latter protests against the imposition of a duty on the bottled essence of vineyards, which he exports for the use and behoof of the somewhat gouty but still shrewd and bargain-driving old gentleman. "You had no right to tax my woolens, but I have a right to tax your wines, for I am getting to be an old man, while you are young and lusty and can bear burdens. I must be free trade only when and so long as it confines to my advantage, and you must be free trade only when it tends to the same ends. Aren't you ashamed of trying to impose on your poor old father?" This is England's idea of free trade; it is like the handle of a jug, all on one side.

IT sounds curiously, while reading the liberal and enlightened letter of the Emperor of Japan to the President of the United States, printed in yesterday's issue, to hear the bitter invectives which are being poured out by the press of California over the recent arrival in San Francisco of two or three hundred immigrants from China. This is hotly inveighed against as "an aggravation of the miseries of the poor, whereby many men of large families will be driven out of employment or forced to accept such wages as the Celestials are willing to work for," while Congress is roundly abused for its persistent neglect of the various petitions which, it is stated, have from time to time been transmitted to that body "for legislative protection against this serious evil." It seems that the period for revising the treaties now existing between the United States and Japan is less than a year distant, and the Emperor expresses his purpose of then reforming them to the furthest extent of his ability and opportunity. It is sincerely to be hoped he will not incorporate any portion of the present policy and customs of California with respect to Asiatics in his proposed plans for attaining "the full development of public right and interest." Constrasted with the noble attitude of this Oriental pagan, in what an unenviable light do the political statesmen of our Pacific territories stand.

THE country is not likely to be favorably impressed with the winding up of the not altogether profitable discussion in the Senate on the question of the sale of arms to France. An second party can do nothing to further it to himself, if he be innocent, to shirk a trial or failing, attempt to pack a jury. It may not be that precisely this has been done or attempted in the Senate, but the proceeding, ending with the appointment of a cut and dried committee, certainly enables those who feel so disposed to bring the charge. The greatest desire was felt to keep SCHURZ off the committee of investigation; and this purpose was fully successful against the protest of some of the staunchest supporters of the administration. It is impossible for us to think otherwise than that the friends of the administration who managed the matter have in this committed a serious blunder. If there is nothing to fear from investigation—and we are bound to accept the assertion that there is nothing—there would have been incalculable advantage, after such a debate, in having the accuser's certificate that there was nothing. It is not necessary to conclude that the refusal to allow SCHURZ to go on the committee is proof of corruption; it nevertheless enables enemies of the administration to intimate and possibly openly charge it. We believe that the committee will do its duty; the country will be satisfied with nothing less. It could not do more with SCHURZ for a member.

NOT EVEN in the house of its friends does the Cincinnati Convention movement seem to prosper. Wide differences of opinion are reported to exist among its authors and advocates as to the course which should be pursued. It is feared by some that, if the convention makes a nomination for President, the Philadelphia convention, which assembles a month later, may possibly nominate some other candidate than President GRANT, thereby taking the wind out of their sails and making them a laughing stock generally. These are in favor of postponing the convention to a date after the Philadelphia meeting. Others, again, have unreliability of the Democratic party gives them much uneasiness. Doubts are expressed whether, notwithstanding the private pledges of leading Democrats that no nominations shall be made by the party, the rank and file will consent to such a bargain. It is argued that men of the class who gave TWEED thirteen thousand majority will not be likely to submit to be led unduly by the nose. Others are fearful that, should the Cincinnati convention make nominations, the Democracy might, when the campaign waxed hot, adopt the tactics of the fox, who slid in between the lion and the bear and stole the meat. On the whole, therefore, and in view of the sea of troubles which encompasses the movement on every side, it seems to be the general impression that the convention should confine itself to a mere declaration of principles, postponing any further action until after the Republican convention at Philadelphia and the Democratic convention shall both have been held. As a confession of the weakness of the movement itself, and an illustration of the utter unlikelihood of a harmonious coalition between the opposition ever being reached, this perplexity of the "Liberals" is decidedly interesting and instructive.

EVIDENTLY the prospects of the Orleans family, after temporary obscuration, are beginning to brighten. In the same dispatch which announces that the Prince de JOINVILLE has been reinstated in his rank as Admiral in the navy, and that the Duc d'AUMALE has been reinstated in the military rank of General we are told that the Committee of the Assembly has reported in favor of the restoration of their property to the Orleans Princes. Even republicans may be supposed to feel some little interest in the origin and amount of the property thus restored, or likely to be restored to its owners. The amount of the property referred to is really so enormous, that in the recent discussion of the subject of restoration, the most earnest opponents of the measure were content to take the lowest estimate as the subject of their satire and denunciation. With reference to the source of the Orleans wealth it would no doubt be possible to make a statement, in which the endowed Princes would appear in the light of most worthy and respectable capitalists, in virtue not of their own enterprise, labors and ingenuity, but of the admirable merits of their ancestors. In the journals hostile to restoration, however, the subject was not presented in any such friendly spirit. The beginning of the Orleans riches was what used to be called an *apanage*. This word is derived from the Low Latin verb *apanare*, which means to *give bread*. French kings used to provide for their younger sons by giving each of them one or more estates to furnish him and his family and dependants with bread, under which term were of course included all things good to eat and wear. These estates, technically called *apanages*, were fiefs, that is, they were held on condition of rendering military service to the King who bestowed them, and on the death of the feudatory without male heirs, the fiefs legally reverted to the King. GASTON of Orleans, a brother of LOUIS XIII., left only daughters, the eldest of whom was allowed illegally to inherit the large estates of her father. At her death she bequeathed what she possessed to the Duke of Orleans, brother of LOUIS XIV., and the riches thus acquired by the family were enormously increased by the marriage of the Duke to Caroline, afterwards Queen, to one of the Great King's illegitimate daughters. The Duke, both nephew and son-in-law, was laden with official dignities and good things of all sorts, and so the riches of the family went on increasing until, at the outbreak of the Revolution, the Duke of Orleans was the richest prince in Europe. He wasted much of his wealth, and was at length compelled to abandon his property to his creditors in virtue of an agreement of January 10, 1792. The government, after paying thirty-seven millions of his debts, redeemed the property for the State in 1793. On the restoration of the Bourbons, one of the first acts of LOUIS XVIII. was to give back all their property to the House of Orleans. Hence, when LOUIS PHILIPPE became King, he was in very comfortable circumstances apart from his royal income. He seems, however, to have felt poverty-stricken, as he one day said to Mr. GUIZOT: "I tell you, my dear minister, that my children will lack bread!" In the foregoing brief and unsatisfactory statement, reasons are apparent which seem to some Frenchmen to warrant the rejection of the petition which asks for the restoration of the Orleans property. But the committee has reported in its favor, and the thing will probably be done.

THE AMERICAN "CASE."

In view of the action of the Government in the preparation of the American "Case" for the Geneva arbitrators, it is encouraging to see the calmness and moderation with which, upon the whole, each of the great nations concerned regards the subject in controversy. The attitude of each towards the other under circumstances so irritating, illustrates in a striking way the advantages of a *habit* of international friendliness. To the eager newspaper warfare which for many years raged between Great Britain and the United States a period marked by mutual forbearance had succeeded, so that when the recent exciting debate arose their amicable relations seem not to have been seriously threatened. Even at the time a war in which it would be a calamity which can not be thought of without horror, whatever might be the final result of the conflict, and we suppose that when the possibility of such a struggle is suggested, few thoughtful people fail to reflect upon certain aspects of our internal relations, which strongly recommend at present a policy of peace. From various sources it is apparent that in England the prospect of a war with this country is thought of with equal repugnance, and there also domestic considerations give force and emphasis to other arguments against an appeal to arms. In a London letter of February 17, addressed to the Pittsburgh *Volksblatt*, CARL BLIND, the well-known German politician, makes interesting mention of the existing controversy. Referring to Mr. CLAY-WOOD's letter to the *World's* correspondent, a letter which may with truth be called remarkable, as it is a proceeding without precedent for a Prime Minister to address such an explanation of his language used in Parliament to the representative of a foreign newspaper, Mr. BLIND says with confidence that the object of the letter was to mitigate the unpleasant impression produced in the minds of the Cabinet by the Prime Minister's strong expression of opinion as to the feudal

THE JOHNSTOWN MURDER.

Continuation of the Coroner's Inquest — Additional Testimony — Michael Moore Still in Custody — Additional Particulars.

Coroner Harrold, of Cambria county, Tuesday continued the inquest on the body of the unknown woman who was found murdered in the woods near Mineral Point. The following additional testimony was taken:

THE BOOT PRINTS IN THE SNOW.

Henry V. Wiggins, sworn.—I was coming to Johnstown on March 1st, 1872; I walked the Central Railroad to the viaduct; then went on the Portage Railroad, met a man coming up the Portage road about the seventh telegraph pole from where Thomas Moore used to live, between the seventeenth and eighteenth telegraph pole west of Mr. Michael Moore's house, on the right hand side; I noticed foot marks coming down from the hill through the spruce; they, the foot marks, crossed the Portage Railroad to the Central; it was a large foot; I did not measure it; I did not observe whether the track was that worn by a gum shoe or not; I suppose the track was ten or more inches long; this track was fresh; it was near eight o'clock A. M. when I noticed it; I passed a track west of Charles Shirts's house; he was about five feet seven inches high; I think he had two overcoats; had a cane in his right arm; the second man I passed about 200 yards behind the first; he was a well dressed man; wore a mustache; I am testified he was a watchman and wanted to see Mr. Dick Funk, who lives at South Fork; the tracks leading down the hill were opposite the house of Michael Moore; I heard of the murder about half past three o'clock, March 1st, 1872; I did not see any one coming out of the woods.

John Ford, recalled.—I was up at the place where deceased was murdered; found hair, burned cloth and some small pieces of bone; couldn't say whether they were human bones; I found them March 3d, '72. I saw some ivory buttons picked up where deceased was lying.

MRS. AMBROSE'S INSANITY.

John Butler, sworn.—I knew a woman by the name of Ambrose; I think I saw me she was fifty years of age; was a dress-maker; she lived on Market street, Johnstown, not far from where I live, she was in destitute circumstances; she wanted clothes; I have not seen her for four or five weeks. She, Mrs. Ambrose, told me to ship her things to Allegheny City; she had nothing; she had a child and pipe; said she was in trouble; said she had stolen a book, Mrs. Ambrose's name was Mary Ann Cyphert; I do not consider her sound in mind; told me she had been away in the late war; her and her husband being dead; hears her speaking of having a son somewhere; remarked that she was entirely alone; I only got acquainted with her a month or two before she went away; I never saw her in company with men; she was a very talkative woman; she wore what appeared to me to be gold spectacles; she told me she frequently passed under assumed names; the goods I shipped were marked "A. P. M.," Allegheny City; she wore a black dress, red and white woolen hood; I do not know where she went to.

THE SUPPOSED MURDERED WOMAN.

Mrs. Amanda Boker, sworn.—I knew a lady who gave her name as Mrs. Ambrose; I think I should consider her sound in mind; she told me she had been a spy during the late war; she had a light steel frame pair of spectacles; (a pair shown to witness), think look like the ones she used to wear; Mrs. Ambrose was very harsh in appearance; heard by the clothes she wore a green veil, and gum shoes; do not know what size she wore; think she was at least forty years of age; she said Mr. Mayer, dry goods merchant, had promised her work and did not give it to her; said she was a widow and had no one; did not know where; do not know whether she could write or not; at times she appeared to be of unsound mind; don't think at others; could feel be believed at all times; she was not an educated woman.

G. G. Gorsuch, sworn.—I met Michael Moore and Thomas Keelan near Wilmore March 3d, 1872. It is a mistake in the statement I gave before; it is one year five or ten years since I have known him.

THE CHANGE IN MOORE'S APPEARANCE.

S. A. Reynolds, sworn.—This (pointing to prisoner) is Michael Moore; I heard about a murder between Johnstown township, Cambria county, Pa.; it was Sunday, March 3d, 1872. I saw Moore at the house where Michael Moore was on that day; I live at South Fork, which is one and three-quarter miles from where Moore lives; I was told of where the murder was committed on Sabbath; I have known Moore for two years; have heard him converse on many other directly or indirectly that Moore was the guilty party; I have no idea who the guilty party is; I have been living in the neighborhood; the reason I am so well acquainted in the neighborhood; the reason I think he is the murderer would not state; I cannot tell the murder was committed; I believe it was the most suitable place that could possibly be selected; have been to the house; it is a secluded spot; I was living. Saw Moore two or three weeks ago going towards Johnstown; he was dressed about as he is now; is heard was more full than it is now; I did not see Moore on Friday, March 1st, 1872. A man passed me at South Fork, he was going east; I saw no mud on his clothes; his coat all right; I believe he boarded at Shirts's house; he was about nine o'clock A. M. when he passed South Fork; he was about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high; I may have said that he might be the man; think I saw Michael Moore his hair was not as short as it is now.

THE REMAINS NOT IDENTIFIED.

Luke Barkley sworn.—I do not know where Michael Moore was on the night of February 29, or March 1, 1872; this is Michael Moore (pointing to the prisoner). I do not know where he is; follow for a living; he told me once he was coming from digging coal; I did hear that a man and one and they suspected more as the guilty party; he told me some time ago that work short at No. 5; could not get cars enough; Moore had a full beard when I seen him last, which was a short time ago; his hair was longer than it is now; I have seen a woman at the house as that was murdered; I have not talked to Michael Moore for two weeks.

ADDITIONAL FACTS.

Since the above was placed in type we learn the following additional particulars: The people about Johnstown are well satisfied that Moore is the man who murdered the woman. A pocket-book was found in his house which had been recently mended and a stitch on the side of the sole corresponds exactly with an indentation in the pocket-book found at the scene of the murder toward the viaduct. He has had three wives, 1 of whom are living. Moore has a brother in Johnstown and a sister who has been married a number of years. The brother informed a resident priest, after carrying out that Michael's second wife, formerly Bridget Boyle, was living in Philadelphia, and requested the reverend gentleman to use his endeavors to induce her to come to Johnstown and live with him again. The brother's object in this, as it has quietly appears, was to get Mrs. Moore No. 2 Johnstown, that he might use her.

AS A WITNESS AT THE COURT

Ebensburg, to prove the bad character of her husband. Michael consented to live with this wife again, and, the story is, he sent for her to Philadelphia, and prevailed on her to come to Johnstown. Friday morning early he got on a train of cars, and did not rode some distance up for the purpose of meeting her. The night train, west, coming along, he got on board, and, it is supposed, there met his wife, and accomplished her fell purpose. The conductor of the train is expected to testify to the fact a man and woman got off the train at Mineral Point early on Friday morning. From the station, the latest theory is, Moore conducted his wife to the place he had selected for her murder, and

THERE COMMITTED THE DEED

and returned to his home. Later in the morning he received news of burning the body, and, it is supposed, left the house and proceeded to the spot, the body on fire subsequent to its discovery by Conducting Shriver, and during the latter's absence burning the neighbors. This theory of the murder is extensively circulated in Johnstown yesterday and generally believed. Moore was married to Abbet Doyle some twenty or fifteen years ago, but no time since she left him and went to Philadelphia to live.

It is anticipated that the facts set forth will be decided at the inquest to-day.

At last accounts the jury had not returned a verdict.

Coroner Harrold desires to return his thanks to the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company for valuable assistance rendered in connection with the

The Johnstown Mystery Cleared Up—The Victim Fully Identified—Michael Moore Finally Committed.

The inquest in the case of the woman found murdered in the woods near Mineral Point, on Friday morning, was concluded Wednesday evening before Coroner Harrold of Cambria county. The conductor of the mail train west, on last Thursday night, fully identified Michael Moore as the person who got off his train in company with a woman who was veiled. Moore was placed among the crowd present at the inquest and the conductor pointed him out as the individual. A baggage check found on him before the coroner came into the possession of Justice Culver, being handed to the magistrate by a person who received it from Moore. The check called for a piece of baggage that had been carried from Tyrone to Altoona. It was sent for and found to be a trunk. This was opened in presence of several witnesses, and was found to contain a memoranda of the name of deceased, Mary (not Bridget) Boyle, with the direction to two places in Philadelphia where she had lived—No. 43 and 902 Dean street. The certificate of the marriage, by Father Hamilton, of Johnstown, of the deceased Michael Moore, to Miss ——, with the names of the witnesses to the ceremony was also found in the trunk. In addition there was a quantity of women's wearing apparel, a waterfall, a wide-comb, of fine appearance as the one found at the scene of the murder, and some other articles tending to show that the woman had started for Johnstown with the determination of remaining there. The letters written to deceased by her Garvey, entreating her to come and live with her husband, have also been found in the trunk. The ticket agent at Tyrone testified to having sold two tickets to Johnstown on Thursday evening, and that the trunk in question had only been checked to Altoona. Moore, it appears, had gone on all the way to Philadelphia for the deceased, in place of going half way between Mineral Point and Altoona, and that after leaving the train at the latter accompanied her to the secluded spot, where the murder was committed.

The Secretary of the Treasury calls in an additional $1,000,000 of the three per cent. certificates, the interest to cease April 20th.

Mr. Valentine, Superintendent of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express, reports the amount of bullion produced and shipped from Nevada in 1871 as $22,177,045.

The Boston brokers have held a meeting to take into consideration means for securing the abolition of the present tax of one-twenty-fourth of one per cent. a month imposed upon the capital employed by bankers and brokers in their business. They propose to organize a "Bureau of Claims" for the purpose of securing the re-payment of the tax already collected.

The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

	Morning.	Noon.	Evening
U. S. Bonds of 1881	115¾	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1862	111¾	111¾	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	111¾	111¾	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	112	112	112
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	110¾	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	111¾	111¾	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	112¼	112¼	112¼
10-40s, registered	107¾	107¾	107¾
10-40s, coupon	108¾	108¾	108¾
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾
Currency 6s	117¾	117¾	117¾
United States 5-20s of 1862, registered	111¾	111¾	111¾
United States 5-20s of 1862, coupon	111¾	111¾	111¾
United States 5-20s of 1865, registered	111¾	111¾	111¾
United States 5-20s of 1865, coupon	107¾	107¾	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	112¾	112¾	112¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1864	111¾	111¾	111¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	112¾	112¾	112¾
Union Pacific Railroad	114¾	114¾	114¾
Central Pacific Railroad	114¾	114¾	114¾
Currency Pacifics	114¾	114¾	114¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

United States registered	110½
United States coupon	110½
United States 5-20s of 1862, registered	111¾
United States 5-20s of 1862, coupon	111¾
United States 5-20s of 1865, registered	111¾
United States 5-20s of 1865, coupon	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	112¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1864	111¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	112¾
Union Pacific Railroad	114¾
Central Pacific	114¾

—The Secretary of the Treasury calls in an additional $1,000,000 of the three per cent. certificates, the interest to cease April 20th.

FINANCE AND TRADE

MONDAY EVENING, March 4, 1872.

We give below tabulated statement showing the various items of interest in the report of each of our local banks and the aggregate loans, deposits, &c.:

Banks.	Capital.	Loans.	Specie.	Legal Tenders.	Deposits.	Circulation.
First National	$ 300,000	$ 1,286,190	$ 6,718	$ 310,000	$ 1,602,618	$ 269,865
Exchange	1,000,000	2,493,184	1,926	1,000,000	3,496,110	1,000,000
Citizens'	500,000	1,126,178	1,000	300,000	1,426,178	450,000
Commercial	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
Fourth National	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
Commercial	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
Iron City	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
Mechanics'	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
People's	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
Second National	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000	450,000
Exchange	500,000	1,000,000	1,000	300,000	1,300,000

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1872.

TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

Wanted.

Copies of the following dates of the WEEKLY COMMERCIAL, to complete our file:
Two copies March 11, 1871.
Two copies April 15, 1871.
Two copies September 30, 1871.
Two copies October 1, 1871.

THE report originally given to the public by the COMMERCIAL that Col. THOMAS A. SCOTT will soon retire from the Union Pacific Railroad Company is authentically confirmed. The VANDERBILT interest will succeed to the management, and Col. SCOTT will prosecute the Texas Pacific Railroad, an enterprise which commends itself to his better judgment, and will have the benefit of all his energies.

WHEN JEFF DAVIS, ten or eleven years ago, was elected President of the Southern Confederacy, "Hangman" FOOTE, of Tennessee, indorsed the movement to its fullest extent. He now indorses the nomination of Judge DAVIS as the Labor Reform candidate for President, and thinks he sees in it the same promise of victory which he fancied he discovered in the rebel cause, before the Union armies broke through the Tennessee cordon, and "Hangman" skeladdled from Nashville, frightened out of his wits. He is excellent as an "indorser," but for a prophet is made of very poor stuff.

THE repeal of the Erie Classification bill, the snap arrangement of the usurping directors to retain perpetual control, is before the New York Legislature. The *Herald* thinks that no argument on the question is needed, common honesty being the only question in the case. A precisely similar bill was "put through with a whirl" the Pennsylvania Legislature about the same time, under the superior engineering of Gen. GEORGE W. CASS, now in New York, and perhaps that gentleman could convince the *Herald* of the unsoundness of its views. Our own opinion is that the *Herald* is weak in putting in the plea of common honesty—it is entirely obsolete. It must get something better.

WE HAVE once or twice made reference to the little island of Heligoland which, it will be recollected, was about a year ago made the subject of quite an earnest correspondence between England and Prussia. Several of the more influential British journals subsequently advocated the cession of the islet to Germany, provided its inhabitants should unanimously request such annexation. Another view, however, seems now to prevail. A considerable number of heavy guns have been lately landed on the island, and a German paper, noticing the event, says it is understood that the place is to be put in as complete a state of fortification as possible, without delay. HIS BISMARCK again been casting a covetous eye in that direction?

"STEADILY Southward and Westward the Pennsylvania Railway King pushes his conquests," says the Atlanta *New Era*, referring to the election of Col. SCOTT as President of the Texas Pacific Railway. Disturbing, it might have added, the sub strata of prejudice, and dispelling the mists of ignorance, as he goes. Col. SCOTT has now obtained control of the Memphis and Little Rock, and Little Rock and Fort Scott railroads, which gives him a clear line from Chattanooga to the Indian Territory. And our fellow-citizen, the eloquent Colonel BOURMONT, the Indian chieftain, who is said to be making some forcible arguments at Washington in favor of the establishment of the proposed territorial government, will be soon to have a fuller sequence and connection than it has before been thought to possess.

THE National Debt continues to grow "fine by degrees and beautifully less." As will be seen from the monthly statement of the Secretary of the Treasury, printed in our telegraphic columns, the reduction during February amounted to $12,391,451. Such illustrations as these speak more for the general integrity of the Administration, and for the faithfulness and efficiency of its management of the public finances, than any amount of mere argument could possibly do. It is not probable that the thinking, practical people of the country will withdraw their confidence from the Administration as long as it continues to show such a balance sheet as this. The exhibit also speaks very forcibly for the healthful and promising condition of the trade, finance, and general resources of the country.

THE reply of our government to the communication of Lord M. GRANVILLE, was dispatched from Washington on Saturday. While something like a couple of weeks must necessarily elapse before its receipt by the British government, the reports which have leaked out on this side concerning the nature of its contents, and which have unquestionably already been telegraphed to London, will tend still further to allay any irritation that it does not propose to push the claims for consequential damages.

THE recuperative and creative energies of Chicago are without parallel. Notwithstanding that less than six months ago it was stripped bare to the skin by its terrible disaster, its business last year was larger than during any year preceding. During the packing season, which commenced November 1st, and ended with the first of the present month, the Chicago packers handled 1,166,415 hogs, being 272,415 head more than last season, while the grain receipts and shipments of 1871 show a corresponding increase over previous years, and the lumber trade and all kinds of foreign commerce exhibit a similar expansion. At this rate, by the time the United States Senate has got through debating the question whether or or not to lend her a helping hand in the form in which she requests it may be done, she will pretty nearly have outgrown the necessity of any assistance whatever.

THE New York *Post* was relied on to afford aid and comfort to the "anti-GRANT" movement, whereof the nomination of DAVIS and PARKER is the first systematic demonstration. But the *Post* bolts unreservedly these nominations on account of the platform on which the "workingmen" planted them and their virtual indorsement of it. Thus the obstacles in the path of coalition present themselves at the outset, and will increase at every step. The improbability of the Cincinnati Convention, coming together as it will with the Missouri platform for its guide, ever taking candidates who have already accepted a nomination on a protective platform, to say nothing of the utterly impracticable crudities of the workingmen's declaration of principles, is at once apparent. And any attempt to run candidates on a variety of platforms would at once disgust every decent man in the nation.

THE cogent arguments of the delegation of Eastern silk manufacturers now before the proper Congressional Committee to remonstrate against the repeal or reduction of the tax on silk, are strongly reinforced by the reports which come from the Pacific coast concerning the successful start which this important industry has made in that quarter. Under a liberal protective policy there is little reason to doubt that, in a few years, the cost of producing American silks will be so reduced by the stimulus which silk culture will receive, that they can be sold as cheaply as the pauper manufactured fabrics of Europe. The California Silk Company has been so successful in its operations during the short period of its existence, that another company has just been incorporated and will soon begin work on an extensive scale. Be patient, Messrs. Free Traders. England made the world wait a long time for her free trade professions. We shall not need a tithe of her period.

COL. SCOTT evidently means work. It is barely two weeks ago since he was elected to the Presidency of the Texas Pacific railroad, and already a bill has been introduced into the United States Senate, which changes the name of the company to the "Texas and Southern Pacific," empowers it to issue construction and land bonds for such amounts as may be considered needful, invests it with certain portions of important mortgage powers, provides that two hundred miles of the road shall be constructed westerly within two years, and that the whole road shall be completed within ten years from the passage of the act. The fact that the bill provides that the construction of the road shall commence at Marshall, Texas, is perhaps significant, for the reason that that town will in all probability constitute the Southern terminus of the contemplated railroad through the Indian territory, should the speculators now operating at Washington succeed in carrying their point.

—As YET there is no evidence that the key to be sounded by the Labor Reform Convention at Columbus is going to swell into a song of victory. It may be too early to be positive, but it is pretty clear that the predictions by those who professed to believe that the nominations of DAVIS and PARKER would clear the Presidential sky and set the sign of victory for all the opponents of General GRANT, are not being realized. The conceded possibilities of the occasion are not likely to be worked out. The key note is not being caught up with anything like "significance." The affair has no perceptible body or breath; and then, there is an odor as of something dead and under a galvanizing process. The suspicion is strong that it is the Democratic caucus of "peace at any price" memory. It is apparent the signs relied on to animate expectant watchers are not brightening but waning. Doubtless further attempts will be made to "combine for victory," but certainly this first sally has not been productive of any degree of positive encouragement to those engaged in it.

TEMPERANCE LEGISLATION IN FRANCE.

Until recently, or within the last few years, the laboring classes in France were comparatively temperate in the use of intoxicating drink. No doubt, there was a good deal of drunkenness among them, but in comparison with the same class in England their habits of sobriety were so marked as to arrest the attention of English observers. Nor was intemperance a prominent vice of those idle and otherwise vicious members of French society, who were looked upon by their neighbors as least exemplary. During the war intemperance became fearfully common, and ever since the habits formed in those evil days have been gaining strength and working increasing mischief in the way of example among the young and even among adults, so that the subject is now regarded with a degree of anxiety which is indicated by the measures for the arrest of the vice which find favor with some reformers. As the temperance cause, so called among us, is a fresh interest in France, and as the subject is presented without any of those prejudices and presumptions which are the natural results of long discussion and agitation, it is interesting to learn in what manner the friends of reform propose to deal with the evil. A law has been framed and brought before the legislative body for consideration, in which getting drunk is treated as a crime. According to the provisions of this law, any person found drunk for the first time must pay a fine of from four to five francs. Whoever having within three years been twice sentenced for being drunk, shall offend a third time, shall pay a fine of from six teen to three hundred francs, and shall undergo an imprisonment of from six to thirty days. Over and above the foregoing punishment the culprit is disqualified for the exercise of the following rights: 1, the right to vote; 2, the right to be elected and sit; 3, the right to be a juror; 4, to fill any public office, and, 4, during two years the right to carry weapons. Every elector who makes his appearance at the polls in an intoxicated state; every witness, juryman, mayor, and member of communal council who gets drunk while in the discharge of his official or specific duties, shall receive the same punishment as the person who has been twice condemned for intoxication. The same act, or rather proposed act, provides punishment for the keepers of coffee-houses and wine-shops who permit their patrons to make themselves drunk on their premises, or who admit drunken people into their places of entertainment.

It may be easy to ridicule some or all of these provisions, and still easier to denounce them as inconsistent with civil liberty. It may also be true that a temperance law well adapted to a people like the French is long familiar with the methods of a paternal or despotic government, would not be suited for a free nation. Probably, however, to many readers the statute sketched above will appear to be skillfully aimed, and certain, if sternly enforced, to strike in a vital part the evil against which it is directed. Though the sketch above given may first undergo some modifications, it will most likely be enacted and then carried out. But it is well to recollect that the law will be sustained in France by a force of public opinion, which a similar law in Great Britain or the United States would lack. Drunkenness has never been fashionable in France, but has always been regarded by the great mass of the population with disgust and abhorrence. Even French people who scorned religion and laughed at its votaries looked down with contempt on the drunkard in the days when leaders of society in Edinburgh seldom went sober to bed, and when gentlemen of high social position in England usually muddled themselves as a matter of course at their dinner tables. How it was then with the working classes we need not say. In this country we inherit the old British spirit of indulgence toward those who take too much, and cannot loathe or abhor, however much we may disapprove, their vice. The respectable example of the past also is still powerful and enters into the prevailing opinions and prejudices of the present. Until these shall have been changed by sound moral education as well as by instruction, we fear that such a law as the one proposed in France would specially become a dead letter on this side of the Atlantic.

OUR JUDGES.

The argument made by our correspondent "Madison" against the constitutionality of paying the judiciary of the State in part out of the county treasury, is not sustained by some leading members of the bar. The Legislature, several years ago, passed an act allowing the Judges of Philadelphia to be paid an additional two thousand dollars annually out of the county treasury, and the question of the constitutionality of that act has not been raised. On the question whether our Judges should not be paid the additional sum named in the bill now pending in the Senate, these arguments are pertinently advanced: The Courts of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Orphans' Court and Oyer and Terminer, four in number, are presided over by Judges STERRETT, STOWE and SHANNON, and MITCHELL, who scarcely any intermission, from September until the middle of July—ten and a half months of constant, arduous and exacting labor, both mental and physical. The business of these four Courts has quadrupled within the last ten years, and the bar and the community have felt the necessity, not only for an increase of salary of the judges, but for an additional Judge on the Common Pleas bench at no distant day. In Philadelphia *five* judges—two more than we have—preside over similar courts, although, in proportion to the amount of litigation in the courts of this county, Philadelphia is not entitled to that number. Moreover, the Philadelphia judges are paid $7,000 a year—$5,000 by the State and $2,000 by the city, under the provisions of a law precisely similar to that now before the Legislature for this county. The Judges of the District Court, Messrs. HAMPTON and KERRAGHER, have great labors thrown upon them, and the business of that Court is growing important and pressing. In Philadelphia four Judges preside over a Court of like jurisdiction, two more than we have. If Philadelphia, it is argued, can have nine Judges at $7,000 each per annum, and the benefit of jury trials beside before a Supreme Court Judge at *Nisi Prius*—making *really ten* Judges in all—should not Allegheny county, with her great business interests and commercial standing, have four Judges (all at least as many?) Members of the bar can make money by investing capital in various ways, but Judges cannot be stockholders in corporations, nor speculators in real estate or mortgages, without being open to censure, and at times placed in a position to awaken suspicion. Cut off from all the ordinary channels of business, they must, as honorable men, abstain from money making, and rely upon the compensation paid for their services. Many lawyers at the bar make from ten to twenty thousand dollars a year, none of whom, diligent though they be, are more severely taxed than the judges. Men competent to sit in judgment upon questions involving the rights of property and person, should be paid a fair and just compensation—an amount equal to that which like fitness and capability command in other cities.

The arguments adduced are forcible, and will no doubt weigh with the Legislature in considering the bill. We have said that we do not believe our judges are paid sufficiently for the labor they perform, and we are therefore not opposed to the increase asked for. The legality of the proposed act is quite another question, and one which every citizen has a right to criticise, if he has the ability so to do. It is only by intelligent discussion that proper conclusions may be arrived at, and this was the purpose in admitting "Madison's" communication.

In regard to the pecuniary burden which the increase will impose upon the people, it is explained that not a penny will be raised by taxation, as the State, under this bill, remits the tax now paid into the State Treasury upon Judicial writs, and authorizes it to be paid into the County Treasury, thus securing an amount more than sufficient to meet the proposed increase of one thousand dollars to each of the Judges. Under the facts as stated, there is no reason why the bill should not pass.

UNFORTUNATE CITATIONS.

A number of journals more or less favorably disposed toward the "Liberal" movement, are citing the cases of Virginia and Tennessee in proof of the satisfactory results of the policy wherever experimentarily applied, and arguing, thence, the salutary influence which the same policy might be expected to exert on the nation at large; and much stress is laid upon the fact that Senator POWELL, of the latter State, conjointly with others of its prominent men, has tendered an address to the Republicans of the State, urging them to take action in favor of the coming Cincinnati Convention. The political impedance of this address, and the alleged happy effects of the "Liberal" policy upon affairs in the State generally, are probably alike overestimated. Indeed, it is not more than a couple of weeks ago since Hon. W. R. SEVIER, a conservative Union member of the Tennessee Legislature, resigned his seat in that body, on the express ground that the old rebel element prevailed to such an extent that all the principal State offices were held by persons who formerly wore the grey, while—we quote his exact language—"the badge of inferiority is placed upon all men who were friends of the government during the war, regardless of their sacrifices and efforts in behalf of peace, popular rights, universal amnesty and universal suffrage, since that period." This testimony, which certainly ought to be considered reliable, is not exactly of the kind calculated to make Republicans over-anxious to see the policy out of which the condition of things therein described arose, prevail throughout the country at large. Nor, for that matter, does Virginia present any improvement in the aspect of affairs. Not contented with furnishing the honor of the State by violating the contract recorded in the State bonds which were issued under the funding law, the Conservatives who have come into power since the inauguration of the "liberal" era, are plotting to change the Constitution of the State so as to restore the system of *vive voce* voting, and to leave each county free to provide its own public schools—for the purpose, of course, of reestablishing the old system of terrorism with regard to voters, thereby placing the political power of the State in the hands of a few men; and by abolishing the free school tax to again bring the masses of the people under the same bondage of ignorance in which they existed under the ante bellum *regime*. The fact is, that the political troubles of neither Virginia nor Tennessee are really composed, and that the very liberality of the treatment they have received seems to have served rather to deepen than to remove the social and political prejudices which grew out of the war. If the advocates of the Cincinnati movement have no better arguments to offer in favor of their cause than those which the condition and prospects of Union people in those two States afford, they can hardly look for any extensive following.

SEVERAL signs have lately indicated the emotion with which the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church is this country regard the influence of the daily secular press. Thus Bishop FOLEY, a few days ago in a public address, declared, with the confidence of an experienced and vigilant observer who had studied the subject, that the daily newspapers wage incessant warfare against the Church of Rome. Benevolent readers, readily sympathizing with others, were, of course, gratified to learn on the same authority that these busy antagonists are able to effect but little harm—a view of the subject which, in the Bishop, certainly implies either exceeding confidence in the strength and vitality of the institution assailed, or else a very contemptuous opinion of the vigor of the assailants. No doubt the bishop's estimate of the actual results of newspaper hostility to the Papal Church is to be referred to both these notions. Thus understood, the remark was well adapted to inspire in believing hearers respect for the speaker's sagacity as well as piety, and also to enlist toleration for a numerous class who wishing to do harm are yet innocuous.

We can not, however, help thinking that the bishop's accusation against the daily press is hardly well founded. On the contrary, with some exceptions the daily newspapers in the exercise of their vocation having occasion to mention or refer to the strictly religious proceedings of the Catholic Church, or its ministers, do so both in a manner and then confine it. In same tone as they mention or refer to the strictly religious proceedings of other Christian sects, or their ministers. Indeed, considering the circumstance that these journals are mostly controlled by Protestants more or less imbued with the prejudices implied in the name, the fact is rather noteworthy that their editorial columns commonly contain so little matter of a character objectionable to devout Catholics. In this respect they reflect the tolerant spirit of our national Constitution rather than the proper temper of the predominant elements of our population; a remark the truth of which becomes at once manifest on comparing the reticence of American secular journals concerning Catholic religious dogma with the opposite trait of British or even French publications of the same class. The truth is that the men referred to in the Episcopal accusation seem generally, if judged by conduct, to hold it not worth while to do what they are charged with doing. On examination it would appear that newspaper attacks upon the Papal church are generally provoked by some act, or proposition, or doctrine either directly political in tenor, or easily susceptible of a political interpretation and application. Only with the church as a political organization have the American newspapers any interest. So long as its head was a temporal sovereign, his acts were inevitably a subject of discussion in secular journals, and so long as the same Potentate insists on his right under Divine sanction to the civil as well as spiritual allegiance of his subjects, the plain must not be regarded with indifference by the political organs of a people who wish to think for and govern themselves. Bishop FOLEY complains of the manner in which the daily newspapers misrepresent the recently decreed dogma of infallibility. But if they err in this respect, they err in good company, that of some of the greatest doctors of the church. In connection with this subject, the explanation that the famous definition or decree of the Council, considerable interest attaches to the new society, "The Catholic Militant Union of the Cross," lately organized in this country, as reported in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday. Of the constitution of this society the personal infallibility of His Holiness is the fundamental principle, and the new organization destined to comprehend the entire Catholic population of the country, may therefore fairly be expected to impart fresh animation and industry to the efforts of those reformers among us who labor for the regeneration of American society by carrying into effect the doctrines of the memorable Syllabus.

A WONDERFUL SOCIETY.

A new organization, intended to comprehend the entire Catholic population, has been formed in order completely to place the members of the church in the new relations established between them and its head. This society is called "The Catholic Militant Union of the Cross." At a meeting of all the Catholic societies of New Orleans, a few days ago, Archbishop PERCHE presided, and delivered a lengthened address, in which he stated that he had written to Rome and received from Cardinal BARNARD, Prefect of the Propaganda, the advice to organize the association. Branches of the society, it seems, exist in France, Belgium, and, indeed, all over Europe. Singularly enough the Archbishop in his discourse referred to the International Society as illustrating the power and greatness derivable from union and co-operation. The object of the Militant Union is to labor and combine resources for the defense of the church, of the Holy See, and for the protection of the Catholic religion. Its agencies are prayer, instruction, preaching and whatever measures are approved by the Holy Father. It is designed to include all the Catholics in the world; all male Catholics from fifteen years upwards as regular members; all female Catholics from the age of eighteen upwards as *Society of the Lady auxiliatrices*; children from their first communion to the age of eighteen are Aspirant members; children from birth until their first communion are co-operative members. From the Archbishop's statement it appears that this new society was devised during the session of the late Council, and has the sanction of the Pope, Cardinals and Bishops there assembled. In fact, the Pope is the head, and "one of the first principles of the new Union," says Archbishop PERCHE, "must be firm faith in the infallibility of the Pope." "Lately adopted as a doctrine of the Catholic religion, every Catholic must believe it unconditionally." After the address, the persons present became members of the Union by signing its constitution and a formal pledge of fidelity to its engagements.

These particulars, which we derive from the *Deutsche Zeitung*, a paper published in New Orleans, are interesting, as they illustrate the method by which the Catholic laity are being enlisted in support of the new dogma. "The Catholic Militant Union of the Cross"—which is not the church and yet comprehends, or is intended to comprehend, the entire church—is surely a historical as well as a religious curiosity. We should, however, rather suspect that it is chiefly designed for effect in this country.

THE Charleston (S. C.) *Courier* reproduces a paragraph from the New York *Herald* to the effect that we did not dare go to war with England, knowing how easily she could fan the discontent of the Southern States into a new rebellion, and calls it "Beginning to think," from which it is to be inferred that that journal at least is not governed by the kindliest feelings toward the people of the North, and the government. A similar view to that of the *Herald* is entertained in various quarters. An English capitalist who two years ago settled in Virginia as a farmer, writes to a friend at home that his observations feel him to believe that the Southern people hate the Northerners more bitterly now than at the commencement of the war. He cites a conversation lately held with some prominent men; the tenor of it being that in the case of a war with England nobody but the blacks would volunteer, and that if a conscription were made the levies would in all probability take the first chance of going over to the enemy. This Englishman indulges in a variety of other curious and amazing speculations concerning the "hot box" in which the "Yankees" would be likely, in case of hostilities, to find themselves. We shall have no war with England over the Alabama claims, and therefore the temper of the South concerning the matter is of comparatively little consequence. Still, it is to be regretted that these moody feelings should exist, and it is instructive to know that they do exist.

THE House having passed the Senate bill for setting apart the Valley of the Yellowstone river, in Montana and Wyoming Territories, as a national park; it is to be hoped that the Secretary of the Interior, who is to have general charge of it, will see that it is preserved intact for the purposes supposed to be contemplated therein. The only dubious feature of the measure is that section which empowers the Secretary to execute leases of a portion of the reservation. It has sometimes happened that laws have been passed and treaties manipulated in the interest of private individuals, and it is not impossible—considering who framed and introduced the bill—that, in the present case, this unobjectionable language may point to some scheme of hotel monopoly, or to some mining or other enterprise, about which Congress has no information, but which may constitute one of the principal reasons and objects of the movement. The tract of country thus set apart is about forty by forty-five miles in extent, near the headwaters of the Yellowstone river. It is a rugged and mountainous region, some seven thousand feet above the sea, and abounds in scenery of astonishing magnificence, curiosity and grandeur. It is unavailable for agricultural purposes, but it is the opinion of physicians that many of the extraordinary springs with which it abounds will be found to possess various curative powers. Properly managed, it will probably, within a few years, become one of the most popular resorts of travelers and invalids to be found anywhere in the world. Only let there be no favoritism, jobbery or fraud connected with it.

WERE it not that the pistol with which the late "attempt on the life of Queen VICTORIA" was made, appears to have been, if not exactly without "lock, stock or barrel," yet uncharged and of "such primitive construction that if it had been loaded it probably could not have been discharged," for thus runs the cable telegram), the English press would have had some legitimate ground for the feverish excitement into which they seem to have worked themselves over the harmless, if foolish freak of an ill-balanced and ill-behaved Irish youth. To the credit of the Queen be it said, she seems to been the least discomposed of anybody, having the forethought to at once request that a statement might be made in both Houses of Parliament, in order to prevent exaggerated rumors from getting abroad. GRANVILLE and GLADSTONE, however, appear to have completely lost their wits, and to have raved about the "would-be assassin," with his empty and most inocuous weapon, almost as incoherently as he himself seems to have raved over the imaginary wrongs of Ireland. The use of, course, wholly unjustifiable, and the person who commits them deserves to be punished for his temerity—unless, indeed, it shall be found that he needs the attention of a physician rather than of a gaoler. But this does not release the ministers from their comical predicament. We hardly thought to have seen GLADSTONE, after his recent stern dealing with certain satirical dramatists, himself take a leading part in so broad a travesty of "Much Ado About Nothing."

THAT the question of Constitutional Reform in our State should begin to engage the attention of some of the most thoughtful and able minds among us is certainly a good sign. Notwithstanding the overwhelming popular verdict in favor of a Convention, until very recently the subject did not appear to secure attention which its gravity merits. It is for this as well as for other reasons the proposed postponement of the Convention till after the Presidential election is wise. After all that has been said, time is needed for discussion before the people, for comparison of views, and to awaken the degree of special interest which will insure an able and non-partizan Executive Session. ATTORNEY GENERAL BRADAS, Secretary of the Commonwealth, are valuable and instructive contributions, following which we have the views of the Hon. D. WATSON ROWE, of Franklin county, an able jurist and President Judge of his district, embodied in the draft of a constitution. It is to be hoped that the example of these gentlemen will be imitated by other thinkers, so that the public mind may be schooled in advanced ideas against the time when the Convention will assemble.

THE venerable WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT has been egregiously imposed upon. During his recent sojourn in Havana the Spanish Sub-Secretary of the Cuban Treasury Department informed the poet that Spain and Cuba to Washington was negotiating a treaty of commerce for the free interchange of commodities between the United States and Cuba. Mr. BRYANT published this statement in the New York *Post* of the 1st instant, accompanying it with a letter in which he grew quite eloquent over the advantages which such a treaty would confer upon the countries named. It turns, however, that the Spanish Minister, if invested with such powers, has as yet given our government no intimation of the fact, and it is morally certain that such a proposition would in any event be declined. It is not likely that the United States will voluntarily surrender the revenues now derived from importations from Cuba, in order to benefit a power to utterly regardless of the dictates of justice and humanity in its treatment of Cuba Spain has proved itself to be. The evidence which the venerable poet gave to the statement is more creditable to the goodness of his heart than to his sagacity as an editor—even of a free trade journal.

THE decisive refusal of the House to entertain Mr. COX's resolution instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to report a bill for the reduction of the tariff on pig iron, can hardly fail to give a healthy impetus to the development of our iron industries throughout the country. An analysis of the vote by Yeas and Nays shows, in favor of reduction, Republicans twelve, Democrats sixty-two, total seventy-four—with eighty-eight Republicans and eleven Democrats against it, giving a protectionist majority of twenty-seven. It was not a full House, but the vote was considered to be a fair average test of the relative strength of the Protectionists and Free Traders. Of the eleven Democrats who voted against reduction, nine were from this State, the other two being from Michigan and Texas, respectively. The Eastern States gave four votes for reduction to thirteen against it; the Middle States eleven for reduction to thirty-three against it; and the Western States twenty-seven for reduction to thirty-four against it. Upon the whole the showing is exceedingly favorable, the more so for the reason that in proportion as the mineral and manufacturing industries of the great West become developed, the protectionist majority in Congress will be likely to increase also.

IT stated by the New York *Shipping List*, and indorsed by the *Economist* of that city, that our own cotton manufacturers have now the command of the market, the foreign imports—enormous as they are—being greatly less in amount and value than the domestic supply. This is a good sign, and it is still a better one that this important industry is being extended throughout the Southern States at a most promising rate. In addition to the cotton factories already in operation in South Carolina, Georgia and other portions of the South, Alabama has established several within a short time past. There are now running in that State six factories of this character, which number in the aggregate over forty-three thousand spindles, and consume upwards of twenty thousand bales of cotton annually. All these things point to a better because broader era of industrial activity and enterprise than has heretofore characterized that region, and it is to be hoped that the illustrations thus given in Alabama of what may be accomplished by a people determined to help themselves, may encourage the entire South in matters of similar practical reconstruction.

WE referred, the other day, to the competitive examination under the new Civil Service rules, ordered to be applied by the Collector of New Haven, Connecticut, in the filling of the office of Inspector, then vacant. Thirteen persons, one of whom was a negro, presented themselves to the Committee, to each of whom a paper was given, containing ten questions, seven of which referred to the duties of an Inspector, two to geography, and one to arithmetic, to be answered in writing. On the following day the several papers written by the candidates were read to the Committee, so that there was no possibility of recognizing or being influenced by the handwriting, and the person giving the most accurate answers received the appointment. He proved to be an old subordinate Custom House officer—a thoroughly worthy and competent man—who was removed from his position under personal pressure when the present Collector came into office. He has now, as it were, come to his own again; and it is gratifying to know that the first application of the new rules resulted in so plain a remedying of so palpable an injustice. It is a good sign.

HERE we have it again. At a consultation of leading Democrats which took place in New York city last week, at which the prospects of the party were fully discussed, fears were expressed by some that if New Hampshire and Connecticut should be carried by the Democracy at the ensuing elections, "it might lead to unwise action in the party at large, and precipitate measures which could not but end disastrously during the great campaign." There it is in a nutshell. This sentence, which is taken from an article on the subject in one of the most influential Democratic journals of the country, gives a clue to the whole nature of the conspiracy, and shows that passivism is as much an organized hypocrisy as was VALLANDIGHAM's new departure. The people of the country are to be treated with the same fair words, holding in solution the same foul meanings, which they have so often heard and scorned before, and which—it is to expected—they will reject and spurn whenever and wherever they are tempted with them—for conscience has not yet died out from among the people, nor common sense become effete.

THE dealers in boiler plates in New York, representing manufacturers, are in rebellion against the steamboat law of last winter, some of the provisions of which went into operation on the 28th ultimo. The particular objection to the act in the minds of the manufacturers seems to be that (as they construe it) it authorizes the fine and imprisonment of every manufacturer whose iron shall give way in any steamboat boiler explosion, and which, on being tested, shall not bear the tensile strain which has been marked upon it by the maker. Several agents of Pennsylvania manufacturers have expressed their views. Said one of them, "We will take no orders whatever for marine boiler plates, so long as this law is in force. If a man comes here and asks us to take such a contract, we shall peremptorily refuse. Of course, if he asks us to make him a specified quantity of plate iron of a given quality and thickness, without saying that it is for marine boilers, we should probably take the contract, but not otherwise. You see iron men are accustomed to comfortable homes and they object to putting marks upon their iron which may get them into jail." Recently a national convention of steamboat owners and managers prepared a new bill. This convention appointed an executive committee of two from each State, and this committee designated a subcommittee, who drew up this bill, which was approved by the executive committee, and is now before the House committee. They have made many amendments to it, some so late as last Saturday.

AN extraordinary case of life insurance was the other day finally adjusted in Hartford, Connecticut. It seems that some twenty-five years ago, an old lady, then sixty-eight years of age, was insured by a Connecticut speculator for his own benefit, he being, of course, under the impression that she could live but a few years, at the furthest. To his surprise and disgust, however, the venerable spinster seemed to tighten her hold on life with every advancing year. After some ten years of fruitless waiting for her decease, therefore, he grew tired of the investment, and assigned the policy to a friend, who in his turn, at the end of seven years, also gave the matter up as a bad job, making over the policy to a relative, who continued to pay regularly up to his death, which occurred when the tough old lady had reached the ripe old age of ninety-three. The amount of the policy for which she was insured was one thousand and three hundred dollars; and the payments made in premiums during the last twenty-five years amounted to two thousand six hundred dollars, or double the sum which the policy holders will receive. The deceased was the oldest insured person in the United States, and the case is believed to be without parallel in insurance annals in this country.

MR. A. WILDER, of this State, and an engineer of original views, proposes a "Narrow Gauge Combination Railroad System," and has secured for it the recognition of Congress in a bill. It contemplates the laying of two narrow-gauge tracks, side by side, with a space between the inner rails equal to the present common gauge—four feet eight inches. Here there will be three possible gauges, the narrow, the common, and a broad one of more than ten or twelve feet, all of which Mr. Wilder proposes to use. For small traffic and cheap work, the narrow-gauge will be, perhaps, most serviceable, while for high speed and bulky freight the broad ones will be best. By mounting them upon four lines of wheels, one for each track, he contends that the large cars will be so free from oscillation that a high rate of speed can be maintained with safety, while passenger comfort will certainly be greatly enhanced by enlarging the saloon to a width of seventeen feet. The power by which the engines will render them capable of higher speed, and Mr. Wilder even talks of a hundred miles an hour. He also has extensive plans for transporting bulk and passengers across the isthmus of Panama in his big cars, and could easily ship vessels of 500 or 600 tons burthen from one ocean to the other, all loaded.

PENDING the discovery of Dr. Livingstone by its city editor, the New York *Herald*, which has always some praiseworthy enterprise on hand, has turned its attention to the Celtic Saint, St. Denis. It says:

Out of respect to the numerous citizens of Celtic birth or the descendants of the Board or interested in its dealings from day to day, and as a testimonial of regard for the immense Celtic contributions to the railway system of the country, it has been decided to close the Stock Exchange on St. Patrick's Day, the 17th of March proximo. This determination was not arrived at by any resolution of the Board of the Board, but was agreed upon informally among the members, and will be adhered to as one the traditions of Wall street. It is remembered that last year the Legislature proposed making the 17th of March a holiday legally. This year the Stock Exchange will render it once practically. It is thought that all banks, the Custom House and public buildings generally with the Stock Exchange in the decorous compliment to our Hibernian fellow-citizens.

This year St. Patrick's Day falls on Sunday, and there is not the slightest doubt that the banks, Custom House and Stock Exchange will be closed. The *Herald's* gift of prophecy is wonderful.

THE owners of land around the shores of Beaver Lake, in Indiana, went to work, some time ago, and dug a ditch which drained all the water from the lake, and converted its former bed into excellent meadow land. A question as to the ownership of this land has now arisen. The State claims it on the ground that she formerly owned the land around the lake, under the grant from the United States of swamp lands for school purposes. The men who dug the ditch maintain that, under the riparian laws, they have the right to extend the boundaries of their lands to the middle of the bed of the lake. One of the claimants became a defaulter to the State, and, in settling his accounts, assigned to it his right to the recovered land. A third class of claims has arisen. Certain persons, maintaining that the disputed territory reclaimed from the lake is public land of the United States, have squatted upon it, under the preemption laws. After various conflicting decisions of the Indiana Courts, those interested are about to appeal to Congress for legislation. The matter has been referred to the Public Lands Committee, before which ex-Senator Hendricks, Gen. Milroy and others, have made arguments.

THE snow which blocked the Union Pacific Railroad is described as a peculiar kind of snow. It would pack and soon become as hard as ice. The snow plows, driven up against it with the united force of four locomotives, would hardly make an impression. The only way to get it out was to dig trenches every six feet down to the rails, and then use the snow plows. But that was not always successful. At one time three engines were thrown from the track and the snow plow smashed in trying to get through, when to the eye it would seem that one engine could go through without difficulty. At some points, says a letter writer, I have seen the snow so hard that the engines would leave the rails and run right up upon it, mounting it as though it was a flint rock. You would not believe that, unless you could see it, but it is true. I did not believe it till I saw it, for it seems incredible.

THE Frankfort correspondent of *The London Standard*, writing on the 12th ult., says that the "Alabama difficulty has caused a good deal of excitement at Vienna, which is easily understood, as it would be impossible to convince an Austrian that Russia would not take advantage of England having her hands engaged, to press her claims on the Danube, if not to force a direct quarrel on Austria. At a recent *soiree* at the Italian Embassy, Mr. Jay, the American Minister, is reported to have said that the Alabama question was not merely a matter of money—that it was a matter of very large amount of money; Jonathan as well as John Bull, being a very shrewd hand at running up an account."

EXCELLENT kindling wood is made in France from corn-cobs. They are prepared by first immersing them in a mixture of sixty parts of melted rosin and forty parts of tar; after which they are taken out and allowed to dry. They are then subjected to a second operation, which consists in spreading them out on a metallic plate heated to 212 degrees Fahrenheit. They are finally assorted according to size and tied up in bundles. These are sold at the rate of three or four for a cent. The establishment in Paris for manufacturing them employs thirty workmen, and effects sales to the amount of $40,000 annually.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

In regard to the French arms contract, the firm of Remington have published a card in the New York papers concerning the recent statements made in the United States Senate and elsewhere, in which they pronounce the charges of improper dealing untrue in every respect.

In Sweden, licenses for the sale of liquors are put up at auction, and are sold for cash to the highest bidder. Hours of closing are designated for every beer shop, and strictly adhered to. No liquor may be sold to a child or drunkard, and money cannot be recovered for liquor sold on credit. The bars provide warm food, tea and coffee, which, to a certain extent, supplant intoxicating drinks.

Dr. Petermann, the geographer, in a letter to the *Ostsee Zeitung*, expresses himself satisfied by the latest report of the German explorer, Herr Car Mauch, that the diamond fields in East Africa are identical with the Ophir of the Bible, from which King Solomon is said to have conveyed gold and ivory and precious stones to Jerusalem for the construction of the Temple.

Two years ago Oregon was the only State in the Union that did not contain a single mile of railroad. Now she has more miles of finished road in proportion to her inhabitants than any other State.

Engineers have been engaged for the past few days in making a preliminary survey for a bridge over the Ohio river at Jeffersonville. It is said that parties interested in real estate at Jeffersonville will subscribe five hundred thousand dollars to the stock of the bridge, that the Galt House Company and other parties will subscribe liberally, and that the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, if a certain amount of stock is taken, will subscribe the balance necessary to build the bridge. Estimates have been made for this proposed bridge, which places its cost at about one and a half millions of dollars.

In a Utah canon, during the extreme cold weather of last January, some travellers saw a dog standing by the side of a telegraph pole. The appearance of the animal struck them, for, as they rode up towards it, it did not move or show any other signs of life, but stood as motionless as if carved out of stone. A closer inspection revealed the fact that the dog was frozen to death. He had died leaning against the telegraph pole, and stood as naturally as if alive.

Some English political economists, who have read De Quincey to good purpose, contend that the island is getting too populous, and that war has become a necessity to kill off the surplusage.

The Greeley *Tribune* says that the young men who were sent to Colorado and Wyoming by wealthy parents to engage in stock growing, are suffering heavy losses from the unusual severity of the winter there. Among these is a son of Mr. Walter, the chief proprietor of the London *Times*.

A Missouri lady, upon killing a chicken last week, found in its gizzard a nickle five cent piece. The nickle had been there so long, the chicken being unable to digest it, that the letters, face and edges were worn perfectly smooth by the sand and gravel that the chicken had eaten, and which had rubbed against the metal in its course through the gizzard.

The submarine telegraph cables in China are suffering from the attacks of some minute crustacea so small as to be scarcely perceptible to the naked eye. Various breaks have been traced to the agency of these animals, who imbed